

**From:** bounce@bounce.votervoice.net on behalf of Sharon Chaet  
[sharon.chaet@verizon.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 15, 2006 3:20 PM  
**To:** Director Alicia C. Matthews  
**Subject:** Please support faster cable TV licensing

Dear Director Matthews

The Town of Lynnfield has recently received a Video Franchising license. I can not speak enough about the positive feedback from my fellow citizens in the town concerning availability of choice in their town. It makes customers feel more comfortable that they get a selection instead of a mandate of which customer to use.

Verizon recently filed a proposal with the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy (DTE) that simply establishes a shorter and more predictable timeline for the competitive cable franchise process. A faster process for competitive providers is a win for consumers. It brings the benefits of more competition into a market in need of choice. In cities and towns across the country, cable competition lowers costs for consumers by 25 percent and improves quality of service.

Verizon has invested millions of dollars to bring state-of-the-art fiber optic technology to thousands of Massachusetts homes. While Verizon has licenses in several municipalities to offer consumers a choice for cable TV, residents in many more communities are still waiting for competition.

Simply put, the existing process for offering cable franchises is outdated. It was designed for what turned out to be a monopoly market, but times have changed - and the consumers want more choice.

Verizon has said it plans to continue to expand its FiOS TV service to as many consumers as possible. This investment is not only good for consumers but for the economy as well. In fact, a faster licensing process will also encourage additional investment in our infrastructure and contribute to job growth.

As a Verizon employee, I am writing to ask that you please approve Verizon's proposal to bring Massachusetts consumers more choice for cable TV services - it just makes sense.

Sincerely,

Sharon Chaet  
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Lynnfield, MA 01940